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01/19/2012 05:02 PM

To: Betsaida Alcantara, Brendan Gilfillan

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Subject: Fw: AP and Pgh Post Gazette Coverage

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AP Story

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/ac4b0ad415324b6ebcd9de6fc59c1b45/PA--Gas-Drilling-Dimock/>

APNewsBreak: EPA tells Dimock, Pa., residents that it's sending fresh water after all

- THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
- First Posted: January 19, 2012 - 3:59 pm
- Last Updated: January 19, 2012 - 3:59 pm

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says it will deliver fresh water to four homes in a northeastern Pennsylvania village where residential water wells were tainted by a gas driller.

The agency made the announcement Thursday afternoon.

Two residents of Dimock Township tell The Associated Press that EPA told them the first tanker truck will arrive Friday afternoon.

More than a dozen homeowners in Dimock have been without a reliable supply of clean water since Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., the Houston-based drilling firm blamed for polluting their aquifer, stopped making daily deliveries on Nov. 30.

EPA initially promised to send water earlier this month, then abruptly backed away a day later, saying publicly that no decision had been made.

Post Gazette

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/12019/1204630-100.stm>

EPA agrees to test well water for gas-drilling contamination

Thursday, January 19, 2012

By Don Hopey, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced this afternoon it will begin testing well water supplies at 60 homes in Dimock, in Susquehanna County, where residents say Marcellus Shale gas drilling operations have contaminated water supplies with methane and other pollutants.

The EPA also said that start delivering water to four homes on Friday where the well water is undrinkable. Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. stopped supplying the residents with water on Nov. 30, after the state Department of Environmental Protection ruled that the gas company had met its obligations under a 2010 consent agreement.

The residents say their aquifer is still unusable. About a dozen have sued Cabot, claiming the water was contaminated by company well drilling that employed hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," which pumps millions of gallons of fluid, sand and chemicals more than a mile underground to crack the shale and release the gas.

Cabot has denied causing the contamination, and contends that many water wells in the area contained methane before Marcellus Shale gas drilling began in the area.

According to the findings of a state investigation, 18 water wells in Dimock were contaminated following the start of Marcellus Shale gas drilling in Susquehanna County in 2008.

The EPA has taken weeks to decide what to do in Dimock, or whether to do anything.

Read more: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/12019/1204630-100.stm#ixzz1jwT1g9uH>

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